

INTRODUCTION

Heritage makes our cities more interesting and appealing places to live. Historic places reveal important information about past social structures, political movements, architectural styles, craftsmanship, and local traditions. Newer places may hold special meaning because they support emerging cultural practices, contemporary architecture and design, or scientific/technological innovation.

Heritage places come in all shapes and sizes. While most people recognize and appreciate individual historic buildings, larger landscapes containing multiple buildings, structures and/or natural features can also serve as important heritage places. Landscape-scale heritage places are known as Cultural Heritage Landscapes. These places are important because we attach memories, stories and value to them. By conserving significant landscapes, we keep alive those stories that are important to us and that help to give our community its character and sense of place.

This inventory describes 27 significant Cultural Heritage Landscapes in Waterloo. The inventory, developed by Archaeological Research Associates Inc. in consultation with city staff, draws on historical research, feedback from the community and stakeholders, and information and guidance from the Region of Waterloo. The inventory celebrates the city's most special places and will help the city in its efforts to support, enhance, and conserve the places that people value. As a living document, the inventory will be reviewed and updated from time to time to reflect new information, emerging or newly appreciated heritage areas, and community values.

We encourage you to peruse the inventory and learn about the many places that make Waterloo a unique and memorable place.

